



Post-operative handout

When you get home you should keep your pet quiet and comfortable. Do not let your pet get excited by children or other pets. Your pet may be drowsy in the evening and possibly the next day, so should not be allowed out unsupervised.

Medication

Your pet has been prescribed the following medication:

.....
.....
.....

Please finish the course unless otherwise directed.

Wound care

Your pet's wound should be checked daily for any signs of excessive swelling, discharge or redness. The wound site can be bathed with a tepid salt water solution. Some wounds may have drainage tubes inserted into them to prevent a build up of fluid within the wound. It is not unusual to see blood-stained fluid weeping from this and you can bathe around the drainage tube with a tepid salt water solution.

It is extremely important that your cat/dog is not allowed to lick or bite around the sutures as this may infect the wound or remove the sutures, opening the wound up. **We highly recommend your pet wear a preventative collar or protective shirt, which are available from reception, to stop them being able to lick or chew the wound.**

Bandages

If your pet has had to go home with a bandage dressing it is very important that this does not get wet; if for any reason this happens please call the surgery to arrange for the dressing to be changed. If left wet or damp the bandage can cause skin irritation and can also tighten causing uneven pressure which will effect the blood circulation and supply to the area, which could cause a lot of damage. If your pet has a dressing on it's foot you will be sent home from hospital with a bag to put over the bandage, which should be put on when taking your pet outside if the ground is wet.

Feeding

You may offer your pet a small amount of bland food when you get home and they can have fresh water. If your pet has a general anaesthetic or sedation this can sometimes upset their stomach and they may have loose faeces for a few days. By the day after your pet's procedure they should be fine to be fed their normal diet.

Special feeding requirements:

.....
.....

Exercise

We recommend that cats should be kept inside with a litter tray especially if they are to receive any form of medication at home. Dogs should be taken for short walks on the lead until the veterinary surgeon or nurse confirms that it's fine for them to slowly return to normal exercise. If your pet has to be confined for any reason a dog or cat crate is the best thing for this; you can get these on loan from the surgery if required.

Special Instructions:

.....
.....

We would like to see your pet again for a follow-up appointment with the Vet/Nurse on:

.....